

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STOCKH 00624 141747Z

61

ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 NEA-11 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 AF-10

ARA-16 EA-11 SCI-06 ACDA-19 OIC-04 DRC-01 /197 W
----- 027832

P R 141256Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1429

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STOCKHOLM 624

FOR ALDRICH (L)

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PARM, SW

SUBJ: DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE ON HUMANITARIAN LAW

REF: STATE 28347

SUMMARY: HANS BLIX OUTLINED NORTH VIETNAMESE PROPOSALS FOR GENEVA CONFERENCE, WHICH INCLUDE DEFINING JUST AND UNJUST WARS, AGGRESSORS, CODIFYING WAR CRIMES, OUTLAWING MASS-DESTRUCTION WEAPONS INCLUDING HERBICIDES, AND A REJECTION OF IDEA OF "PROPORTIONALITY" IN BOMBING MILITARY TARGETS. HE ALSO CLARIFIED SWEDEN'S POSITION ON SEATING OF PRG AND GUINEA-BISSAU. END SUMMARY.

1. BLIX HAD FOLLOWING COMMENTS RE CHINESE AND NORTH VIETNAMESE PROPOSALS. HE HAD MEANT NORTH VIETNAM AND NOT NORTH KOREA WHEN HE DISCUSSED MATTER WITH EMBOFF AS REPORTED STOCKHOLM 555. HE HAS NO INFO ON NORTH KOREAN PROPOSALS.

2. DRV DELEGATION HEADED BY A MR. LOO (FNU) VISITED
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STOCKH 00624 141747Z

STOCKHOLM ABOUT TWO WEEKS AGO FOR DISCUSSIONS RE GENEVA

CONFERENCE. IT HAD PREVIOUSLY VISITED SEVERAL EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES BUT SWEDEN WAS ONLY WESTERN COUNTRY. NORTH VIETNAMESE HAD DONE CONSIDERABLE HOMEWORK AND WILL ARRIVE AT GENEVA WELL PREPARED. THEY HAVE PREPARED A SINGLE DRAFT PROTOCOL WHICH COVERS MATERIAL INCLUDED IN THE TWO ICRC DRAFT PROTOCOLS. IT IS NOT CLEAR TO BLIX WHETHER THEY INTEND CIRCULATE THEIR PROTOCOL AS CONFERENCE DOCUMENT OR WILL JUST USE IT AS THEIR OWN WORKING PAPER AND TRY TO GET ICRC PROTOCOLS AMENDED TO CONFORM WITH THEIR IDEAS. LATTER APPROACH MORE LIKELY, BLIX BELIEVES.

3. BLIX SAID DRV APPROACHING GENEVA WITH "DIFFERENT PHILOSOPHY" THAN WESTERN COUNTRIES INCLUDING SWEDEN. MOST IMPORTANT TO THEM IS CONCEPT OF JUST AND UNJUST WARS, AGGRESSORS AND THOSE AGGRESSED UPON. TIED IN WITH THIS IS A PROPOSAL TO CODIFY WAR CRIMES. NORTH VIETNAMESE BELIEVE RULES OF WAR SHOULD APPLY ONLY TO AGGRESSORS. THEY ALSO WILL PROPOSE A GENERAL CLAUSE EXEMPTING LDC'S FROM RULES CONCERNING CRUEL AND IN-HUMANE WEAPONS ON GROUNDS THAT LDC'S CANNOT AFFORD SUCH WEAPONS ANYWAY. BLIX TRIED HARD TO CONVINCE DELEGATION THAT GENEVA CONFERENCE WAS NOT PROPER FORUM FOR BRINGING UP QUESTION OF WAR CRIMES. HE ALSO TRIED TO GET THEM TO DROP IDEA OF EXEMPTING LDC'S. THEY AGREED TO CONSIDER WHAT HE SAID. HE HAS NOT HEARD FROM THEM SINCE.

4. NORTH VIETNAMESE ALSO HAVE A PROPOSAL TO BAN WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION, I.E. ATOMIC WEAPONS, AND ALL CHEMICAL/BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS INCLUDING HERBICIDES. AGAIN BLIX IS TRYING TO GET THEM TO RAISE THESE ISSUES IN OTHER FORA.

5. NORTH VIETNAMESE REJECT CONCEPT OF "PROPORTIONALITY" IN BOMBING OF MILITARY TARGETS. BLIX, HOWEVER, WILL STILL GO ALONG WITH SOME FORMULA FOR PROPORTIONALITY, WHICH HE KNOWS "IS DEAR TO PENTAGON'S HEART."

6. BLIX HAS NOT BEEN IN DIRECT CONTACT WITH CHINESE BUT HIS PEKING EMBASSY REPORTS PRC WILL SUPPORT SWEDISH
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STOCKH 00624 141747Z

POSITION ON CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS. THEIR DELEGATION HEADED BY MR. PICHILUNG. CHINESE WILL ALSO PUSH HARD TO INCLUDE A BAN ON MASS-DESTRUCTION WEAPONS. THERE ARE ALSO INDICATIONS CHINESE BELIEVE THE SECOND DRAFT ICRC PROTOCOL IS "NOT REASONABLE."

7. RE PARTICIPATION OF LIBERATION MOVEMENTS EMBOFF
ATTEMPTED CLARIFY SWEDISH POSITION ON PRG (STOCKHOLM 608)

BY SIMPLY ASKING HOW SWEDEN WOULD VOTE ON PRG FULL PARTICIPATION. BLIX REPLIED: "I SUPPOSE WE WILL ABSTAIN." BUT ONCE PRG IS VOTED IN BY A MAJORITY, WHICH HE BELIEVES IS INEVITABLE, SWEDEN WILL HAVE TO RECOGNIZE IT AS FULL VOTING PARTICIPANT JUST AS IT RECOGNIZED, FOR EXAMPLE, TAIWAN, AS A VOTING PARTICIPANT IN UN, ALTHOUGH IT DID NOT RECOGNIZE GRC. ONLY OTHER ALTERNATIVE AT THAT POINT IS TO WALK OUT, WHICH SWEDEN WILL NEVER DO. IN REGARD TO GUINEA-BISSAU, IF IT DEPOSITS INSTRUMENTS OF ACCESSION TO GENEVA CONVENTIONS IT WILL BE IN SAME STATUS AS PRG, THOUGH IT DOES NOT HAVE QUITE THE ASSURANCE OF AN AUTOMATIC MAJORITY AS PRG, BLIX SAID.

8. BLIX ASKED EMBOFF TO STATE WHAT USG INTENDED TO DO IF IT LOSES ON LIBERATION MOVEMENT ISSUE. EMBOFF THEN QUOTED EXACT TEXT OF PARA. 2, STATE 27026. BLIX ASKED IF THIS MEANS WE WILL NOT WALK OUT OVER ISSUE. EMBOFF REPLIED HE COULD NOT SPEAK FOR USG ON THIS POINT, BUT BLIX SHOULD UNDERSTAND HOW SERIOUS WE CONSIDER THE MATTER, AND WE, OF COURSE, RESERVE RIGHT TO TAKE ANY ACTION IF CONFERENCE PURSUES AN IRRESPONSIBLE COURSE. BLIX SAID HE HOPED WE WOULD LEAVE HIM ROOM TO MANEUVER. EMBOFF HAD NO COMMENT.
OLSEN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, MEETING DELEGATIONS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 FEB 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STOCKH00624
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STOCKHOLM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740231/aaaabdcdb.tel
Line Count: 140
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION L
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 28347
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 MAR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 MAR 2002 by morefirh>; APPROVED <14 JAN 2003 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE ON HUMANITARIAN LAW
TAGS: PFOR, PARM, SW, KN, CH, ICRC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005